

a monthly publication of the  
Tennessee Valley Authority

# InsideTVA

Volume 31, Issue 1  
January 2011

## Lights, Camera, Action

IT'S ALWAYS SHOWTIME FOR  
LAWRENCE SNEED, WHO  
ROCKS AS AN ENGINEER  
AND AN ACTOR.

page 5

Meet the New TVA  
Delegation Members

page 3

Preventive Care  
Exams Now  
Covered 100%

page 6





# In this issue

JANUARY 2011

Meet the New TVA Delegation Members	3
Across TVA	4
My Job Rocks – Lawrence Sneed	5
Your Health Counts: Good News!	6
Applause!	7
New Employee Jessica Pond	8
tva.com Makes the Top 5	8

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## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

TVA is an equal-opportunity and affirmative-action employer. TVA also ensures that the benefits of programs receiving TVA financial assistance are available to all eligible persons, regardless of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, disability or age.

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Inside TVA is available on the TVA Website at [www.tva.com/insidetva](http://www.tva.com/insidetva).



## HOT TOPICS

### December Chill Brings Peak-Demand Records

December's arctic blast of bone-chilling weather produced some of the highest demands for electricity on record for TVA.

On Dec. 14, a peak load of 31,436 megawatts was the highest December peak in TVA history, coming at 8 a.m. EST with the temperature hovering at 15 degrees. It also was the highest winter peak since Jan. 16, 2009, which was 32,572 megawatts.

On Dec. 13, TVA had met a new December record for daily electricity demand of 674.9 gigawatt-hours. This was TVA's third highest amount ever for a 24-hour period. Daily demand on Dec. 14 was 663.5 gigawatt-hours, seventh highest of all time.

TVA's 24-hour demand record is 701.4 gigawatt-hours, set last Jan. 8. A gigawatt-hour equals 1 billion watt-hours.

Pictured above, on Dec. 13, John Sevier Fossil Plant Safety Professional Michael Carter shovels ice from a sidewalk while Maintenance Manager Richard Mullins takes a break from shoveling to hold up his "Take Two for Safety" card, which employees use when they stop before a job and take two minutes to identify safety hazards.



JIM ALLEN

### TVA Helps Businesses Invest \$4.3 Billion in Economic Development Projects in 2010

TVA's technical services, financial assistance and other incentives helped companies invest \$4.3 billion in economic development projects and attract or retain 41,000 jobs across the region in fiscal year 2010.

In partnership with power distributors, direct-served customers; regional, state and local officials; and community organizations, TVA's economic development activities helped recruit or expand more than 150 companies into the TVA service area.

### TVA Contracts with Horizon for Wind Power

TVA added more renewable energy to its generating system with a contract for up to 44 megawatts from Horizon Wind Energy's Pioneer Prairie wind farm in Iowa's Howard and Mitchell counties.

The 20-year agreement will supply TVA with electricity generated by 50 1.65-megawatt turbines. TVA expects to begin receiving electricity from the wind farm by January 2012, subject to applicable environmental requirements and securing firm transmission arrangements.

TVA had signed a purchase agreement in February 2010 from Horizon for up to 115 megawatts of wind power. With this latest agreement, TVA has contracted for about 1,600 megawatts of renewable wind power.

## ON THE COVER

**COVER PHOTO** – Power System Operations Engineer Lawrence Sneed blends his talents as an engineer and actor. Story on page 5. Photo by Damien K. Power.

# Meet the New

## TVA Delegation Members

The TVA delegation is made up of members of Congress from the TVA service area who often work together on legislative issues that affect TVA. Below is a list of TVA delegation members. The names of the new members in red, and they are profiled below. (Congressional districts, where applicable, are indicated inside parentheses, along with party affiliation.)

### Tennessee

Sen. Lamar Alexander (R)  
Sen. Bob Corker (R)  
Rep. Phil Roe (R-1)  
Rep. John J. Duncan Jr. (R-2)  
**Rep. Chuck Fleischmann (R-3)**  
**Rep. Scott DesJarlais (R-4)**  
Rep. Jim Cooper (D-5)  
**Rep. Diane Black (R-6)**  
Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-7)  
**Rep. Stephen Fincher (R-8)**  
Rep. Steve Cohen (D-9)



**Chuck Fleischmann (R-Tenn.-03)**  
**Residence:** Ooltewah, Tenn.  
**Occupation:** Attorney  
**Education:** B.A., University of Illinois; J.D., University of Tennessee

Fleischmann, 48, has practiced law for 23 years in Chattanooga. As host of a radio show, he provided free legal advice to callers.

**Scott DesJarlais (R-Tenn.-04)**

**Residence:** Jasper, Tenn.



**Occupation:** Physician (general practitioner)  
**Education:** B.S., University of South Dakota; M.D., South Dakota School of Medicine

DesJarlais, 56, was born in South Dakota to a barber and a nurse. He moved to Tennessee to practice medicine in 1993.



**Diane Black (R-Tenn.-06)**  
**Residence:** Gallatin, Tenn.  
**Occupation:** Registered nurse, small business owner  
**Education:** A.S.N., Anne Arundel College; B.S.N., Belmont University

Black, 60, is a longtime Tennessee state legislator and a career nurse.



**Stephen Fincher (R-Tenn.-08)**  
**Residence:** Frog Jump, Tenn.  
**Occupation:** Farmer, businessman  
**Education:** Crockett High School

Fincher, 37, is the managing partner of a farming operation that produces cotton, corn, wheat and soybeans. He also sings in a gospel group, "The Fincher Family," that was started by his grandmother.

### Alabama

Sen. Richard Shelby (R)  
Sen. Jeff Sessions (R)  
Rep. Mike Rogers (R-3)  
Rep. Robert Aderholt (R-4)  
**Rep. Mo Brooks (R-5)**  
Rep. Spencer Bachus (R-6)  
**Rep. Terri Sewell (D-7)**



**Mo Brooks (R-Ala.-05)**  
**Residence:** Huntsville, Ala.  
**Occupation:** Attorney  
**Education:** B.A. Duke University; J.D., University of Alabama

Brooks, 56, is a longtime Madison County commissioner, state legislator and former minority leader in the Alabama State House.



**Terri Sewell (D-Ala.-07)**  
**Residence:** Birmingham, Ala.  
**Occupation:** Attorney  
**Education:** B.A., Princeton University; M.A., Oxford University; J.D., Harvard Law School

Sewell, 46, the daughter of a former Selma, Ala., city councilwoman, was the first African-American valedictorian of Selma High School. She spent a decade as a securities lawyer in New York before returning to her home state, and is now the first African-American woman elected to Congress from Alabama.

### Kentucky

Sen. Mitch McConnell (R)  
**Sen. Rand Paul (R)**  
Rep. Edward Whitfield (R-1)  
Rep. Brett Guthrie (R-2)  
Rep. Harold Rogers (R-5)



**Rand Paul (R-Ky.)**  
**Residence:** Bowling Green, Ky.  
**Occupation:** Ophthalmologist  
**Education:** B.S. Baylor University; M.D., Duke University; Georgia Baptist

Medical Center (internship); Duke University Medical Center (residency)

Paul, 48, the son of libertarian Rep. Ron Paul (R-Texas), is a licensed ophthalmologist.

### Mississippi

Sen. Thad Cochran (R)  
Sen. Roger Wicker (R)  
**Rep. Alan Nunnelee (R-1)**  
Rep. Bennie Thompson (D-2)  
Rep. Gregg Harper (R-3)



**Alan Nunnelee (R-Miss.-01)**  
**Residence:** Tupelo, Miss.  
**Occupation:** Founder and president of Allied Funeral Associates  
**Education:** B.S., Mississippi

State University

Nunnelee, 52, a former Mississippi state senator, served as chairman of the state Senate's Committee on Appropriations.

### Georgia

Sen. Saxby Chambliss (R)  
Sen. Johnny Isakson (R)  
**Rep. Tom Graves (R-9)**  
Rep. Paul Broun, Jr. (R-10)  
Rep. Phil Gingrey (R-11)



**Tom Graves (R-Ga.-09)**  
**Residence:** Ranger, Ga.  
**Occupation:** Small businessman and real estate investor  
**Education:** B.B.A., University of Georgia

Graves, 40, previously served as a state representative since 2003. He has served as congressman since last June, having won a special election to fill a vacancy.

### Virginia

Sen. Jim Webb (D)  
Sen. Mark Warner (D)  
**Rep. Morgan Griffith (R-9)**



**Morgan Griffith (R-Va.-09)**  
**Residence:** Salem, Va.  
**Occupation:** Attorney  
**Education:** B.A., Emory and Henry College; J.D., Washington & Lee University

Griffith, 52, previously served as a member of the Virginia House of Delegates since 1994, serving as majority leader since 2000.

### North Carolina

Sen. Richard Burr (R) | Sen. Kay Hagan (D) | Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-5) | Rep. Patrick McHenry (R-10) | Rep. Heath Shuler (D-11)





VIVIAN ELLIS

## Nuclear Angel Tree

TVA Nuclear Power Group employees sponsored an Angel Tree for the Children's Home/Chambliss Shelter in Chattanooga, listing needed items such as classroom and nursery necessities, toys and games. Shown here are some Chambliss children gathered around the tree at the TVA offices in Chattanooga.

"Having these items in the Chambliss classrooms provides many of these children with toys and educational tools they might not have at home," says Executive Management Assistant Linda Tonya, the co-organizer for the initiative.



JASON HUFFINE

## Community Day at Blue Ridge Dam

More than 500 visitors attended the Dec. 11 Community Day to learn about the extensive work being done on Blue Ridge Dam in Georgia. The work on the dam began last July and is expected to be finished in 2012.

River Operations System Engineer Samantha Godsey, the project manager for the Blue Ridge Dam Rehabilitation Project, talks with members of the public.



DAMON LAWRENCE (ROANE COUNTY NEWS)

## Kingston Employees Give Holiday Food Baskets

Kingston Fossil Plant employees, left to right, Beth Jackson, Ashley Owens, Cynthia McCowan and Annie Calloway coordinated this year's effort to assemble 22 food baskets for families from Dyllis Elementary School in Harriman, Tenn., one of the plant's Partners in Education schools.

"For some students, their main meal is at school," says McCowan. "The hope is the food baskets will make sure the students have something to eat while out on break. Most of our food is geared toward children being able to prepare it themselves."

McCowan and Adele Dennison manage the TVA Kingston Recycling Program, the profits of which go into a Good Neighbor Fund. To add to the \$1,067 in the Good Neighbor Fund, the team asked for donations from plant employees. "They came through big time, generously contributing approximately \$3,400," says McCowan. Employees also donated canned goods and helped with the shopping, setup, sorting, packaging, transport and delivery to Dyllis.

## Chattanooga Area CFC Wraps Up

On the last official day of the Greater Chattanooga Area Combined Federal Campaign, a group of TVA employees joined other community leaders to drop off presents and take an UpClose tour of T.C. Thompson Children's Hospital.

"This was only the first load of presents that we took," says Information Technology Senior Manager of Engineering & Operations Support Rachael Welch. "Through the continued generosity of TVA employees, we were able to make another donation of equal size the following week."



CHRIS WELCH

Left to right are General Manager of Bellefonte Nuclear Plant Ray Hruby; Senior Medical Director for T.C. Thompson and Chairman of UT College of Medicine's Department of Pediatrics Dr. Alan Kohrt; TVA's Acting Vice President of Human Resources, Shared Services and Employee Relations Kathy Black; Senior Vice President of Operating Support & Fleet Governance Bill Campbell; Chattanooga's T.C. Thompson Child Life Specialist Maggie Butler; TVA's Chief Information Officer Dan Traynor; Child Life Manager Wallis Davies; President and CEO of Erlanger Health System Jim Brexler; Information Technology Senior Manager Rachael Welch; Power System Operations' General Manager of Contract Projects Dino Xiominis; Information Technology Manager Jamie King; Financial Services Compliance Analyst Lyndsay Sneckenberger; Alliance Flooring CEO Jon Logue; Administrator of T.C. Thompson Children's Hospital Cynthia Rhodes and Fossil Power Group Senior Trader Sharon Loving.



# my job rocks

BY JULIE TAYLOR

TVA employees are on the job 24/7, keeping the lights on, running the river system, managing TVA lands and supporting TVA's operations. In this column, you'll hear from TVA employees who can say, "My job rocks!"

## LAWRENCE SNEED

PRINCIPAL ELECTRICAL ENGINEER, POWER SYSTEM OPERATIONS, CHATTANOOGA

Lawrence Sneed loves to entertain. In fact, his friends say he should've been a comedian. Sneed had another dream, though. He wanted to be an engineer.

Growing up in Norfolk, Va., he spent a lot of time taking broken and discarded electronics apart to see why they stopped working. He also had a gift for math.

After high school, Sneed went off to North Carolina State University. He transferred to Virginia Tech a year later, where he played football on the scout team and applied to be a TVA co-op student.

"I spent five semesters at the Johnson City Customer Service Center, reading substation meters and working on the heat-pump program," he says.

"The experience offered a good introduction to TVA. After a couple of terms, I knew I wanted to work here."

Sneed was hired 17 years ago as an engineer at John Sevier Fossil Plant. Two years later, he transferred to Chattanooga to be a designer in Power System Operations' Substation Projects group. He now serves as the principal electrical engineer for the group's Protection & Control department.

"My co-workers are the best part of my job," he says. "We feel like family, and it is enjoyable to come to work."

His work can be stressful with up to six construction projects under way at any given time. To alleviate stress, he turns to acting and singing.

Sneed says he caught the "acting bug" three years ago when he landed the role of blues singer Bessie Smith's husband in a local

musical. Since then, he has appeared in a number of commercials and productions.

He has even appeared in several TVA videos, including a video about the revolving security doors in the Chattanooga office complex, the annual Information Technology security-awareness training video, and a safety-clearance video for Gallatin Fossil Plant.

He says the arts have taught him how to work with different personalities.

"Lawrence can make anyone smile," says Tony Miller, a senior design technician in the Protection & Control department. "When work gets hectic, the comedian comes out in him. After a joke or two, we are feeling better and ready to tackle the latest project." ■

*Does your job rock? Tell us more by sending an e-mail to [insidetva@tva.gov](mailto:insidetva@tva.gov).*



DAMIEN K. POWER



# Good news!

## PREVENTIVE-CARE EXAMS — COVERED IN FULL WITH NO DOLLAR LIMIT

The TVA Medical Plan now pays 100 percent of the cost for preventive-care exams with no dollar limit. The change applies to the Copayment Plan, the 80 percent Co-insurance Plan and the Consumer-Directed Health Plan.

Previously, preventive-care exams were covered 100 percent up to \$500 per person per calendar year. This improved benefit is a result of the Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act and was effective Jan. 1, 2011.

To promote the use of preventive care and healthy lifestyles, TVA employees and non-Medicare retirees (and each covered member of their families) enrolled in a TVA medical plan have a preventive-care benefit that pays 100 percent for members age 6 and older. You don't have to pay a deductible, copayment or coinsurance for the following:

- Routine physical exams
- Screening mammograms
- Gynecological exams
- Prostate screenings
- Flu and pneumonia shots
- Other preventive services as defined by the American Medical Association.

Many preventive care exams and screenings can detect the likelihood of developing illnesses before symptoms start. Early detection may allow for more treatment options and a chance for living a longer, healthier life. You should make an appointment to talk to your doctor about the preventive care you need at your current stage in life.

For eligible dependents under the age of 6, all TVA medical plans have a well-childcare benefit. This benefit does not have a dollar limit. Exams are covered 100 percent based on the frequency shown below:

- Birth up to age 1: 5 exams**
- Age 1 up to 2: 3 exams**
- Age 2 up to 3: 2 exams**
- Age 3 up to 6: 1 exam per year**

You should ask your pediatrician when is the right time for your child to receive the shots that can provide protection from disease and illness.

### Preventive dental exams are covered, too

The TVA dental plans pay 100 percent for preventive-care treatment, such as routine oral exams and cleanings twice per year. Some diseases and conditions can be linked to oral health.

This change does not apply to Medicare Supplement members. Medicare rules still apply. ■







## NEW EMPLOYEE

### JESSICA POND

Senior Secretary, Fossil Power Group, Chattanooga

Jessica Pond, a senior secretary in the Fossil Power Group in Chattanooga, has always wanted to work for TVA. So much so that she started contributing to TVA's mission at age 8.

In 1993, Pond received attention from *Inside TVA*, local newspapers, CNN and National Geographic for helping TVA start a recycling program for expired potassium-iodide tablets. These tablets – once distributed to health departments near TVA nuclear plants – would be taken by area residents in the event of a radioactive release.

Having heard her father, TVA employee David Pond, discuss alternatives to sending 770,000 tablets to a landfill, she told him how she learned from the Discovery Channel that potassium iodide is used as a supplement for captive sharks. This led to TVA donating tablets to the nation's aquariums.

"I have always been proud of my dad, and I think it's great that TVA has been doing good things for the environment long before 'going green' became trendy," she says. (The inset photo at left of Jessica and David Pond at the Tennessee Aquarium is from the Aug. 24, 1993, *Inside TVA* that she is holding in the larger picture.)

In August 2010, Pond was hired by Equipment Support Services, which manages TVA's heavy-equipment fleet.

Pond was valedictorian of her Ooltewah High School class. She later graduated magna cum laude from Oglethorpe University with a bachelor's degree in political science.

Before joining TVA, Pond was a lease analyst for CBL & Associates Properties Inc. in Chattanooga.

**For a list of employees hired in December, see the next page.**

# Applause!

## New Leader for TVA's Military-Veteran Employees

**Charles W. "Wes" Wingo** has been named TVA Veteran Affairs manager, replacing Dick Brabham, who has served in that role since 2006.



Wingo, the Employee Relations consultant at Paradise Fossil Plant, is

a captain in the Tennessee Army National Guard and has completed multiple deployments to combat areas in recent years. He most recently served as a battery commander in Iraq.

TVA's Veteran Affairs manager makes sure TVA complies with all legislation concerning the employment and treatment of military veterans and employees in the Guard and Reserves. He

also serves as the point of contact and advocate for all TVA military employees, and as the key liaison with the TVA Veterans Association. In addition, he plans and hosts the annual celebration for TVA veterans.

TVA has 2,290 employees with military service and has 20 Veterans Association chapters across the TVA service area.



# NEW EMPLOYEES

Yassine Aboulfaida, Spring City, Nuclear Power Group

David Bradford Alsobrooks, Chattanooga, Information Technology

Laura Renee Atkinson, Decatur, Nuclear Power Group

James Steven Ball, Tuscumbia, Fossil Power Group

Carrie Melissa Beene, Chattanooga, Nuclear Power Group

Kenneth Larry Bratcher, Tuscumbia, Fossil Power Group

James Kent Brightman, Columbia, Power System Operations

James William Bryant, Decatur, Nuclear Power Group

Rhyan Brent Buckner, Soddy-Daisy, Nuclear Power Group

Naquisha E. Causey, Decatur, Nuclear Power Group

Brentley C. Chaney, Columbus, Fossil Power Group

Jimmy Derrick Cheek, Spring City, Nuclear Power Group

Travis Mitchell Christian, Rogersville, Fossil Power Group

Matthew Kevin Conwell, Gallatin, Fossil Power Group

Roy Lagerald Dawson, Tuscumbia, Fossil Power Group

Melissa Houston Diamond, Chattanooga, Chief Executive Office

Stanley C. Dickerson, Gallatin, Fossil Power Group

Angela Marie Dixon, Chattanooga, Environment & Technology

Justyn Bennett Dixon, Starkville, Strategy & External Relations

William A. Duncan, Knoxville, Information Technology

Raymond E. Dunham, Southaven, Fossil Power Group

Tyris Lee Gilmore, Clinton, Fossil Power Group

Cheryl M. Glover, Muscle Shoals, Fossil Power Group

Douglas Dewayne Green, Tuscumbia, Fossil Power Group

Jared O'Neal Greer, Spring City, Nuclear Power Group

Marcus Duane Hankins, Tuscumbia, Fossil Power Group

Billy J. Hill, Decatur, Nuclear Power Group

Herbert C. Hill, Soddy-Daisy, Nuclear Power Group

Harold K. Jobe, Rogersville, Fossil Power Group

Jonathon Robert Jochum, Tuscumbia, Fossil Power Group

Margie Sue Johnston, Soddy-Daisy, Nuclear Power Group

Jake A. Jones, Gallatin, Fossil Power Group

John B. Kegarise, Spring City, Nuclear Power Group

James Clauson Kennedy, Tupelo, Strategy & External Relations

David B. Kettering, Decatur, Nuclear Power Group

Casey D. Kirk, Tuscumbia, Fossil Power Group

Mitchell L. Lawrence, Columbus, Fossil Power Group

Thomas James Ledford, Soddy-Daisy, Nuclear Power Group

Kimberly Dawn Locke, Decatur, Nuclear Power Group

David Lopez, Columbus, Fossil Power Group

David Nathan Lucas, Kingston, Fossil Power Group

William H. Mahan, Spring City, Nuclear Power Group

James C. May, Gallatin, Fossil Power Group

Jarryd A. McCall, Gallatin, Fossil Power Group

Steven Clay McCary, Muscle Shoals, Fossil Power Group

Joshua C. Minton, Chattanooga, Environment & Technology

Kane Michael Nale, Tuscumbia, Fossil Power Group

Carlton G. Neal, Columbus, Fossil Power Group

Charles A. Ownby, Decatur, Nuclear Power Group

Robert F. Parker, Gallatin, Fossil Power Group

Mark David Schaible, Hollywood, Nuclear Generation, Development & Construction

Mark W. Scott, Gallatin, Fossil Power Group

Sheila J. Smith, Muscle Shoals, Fossil Power Group

Stevan James Smith, Chattanooga, Nuclear Generation, Development & Construction

Ethan Gibbs Starkey, Tuscumbia, Fossil Power Group

Tony K. Steele, Clinton, Fossil Power Group

Robert A. Stewart, Chattanooga, Strategy & External Relations

Bradley T. Walker, Decatur, Financial Services

Robert G. Weaver, Spring City, Nuclear Power Group

Tiffany C. Wesson, Decatur, Nuclear Power Group

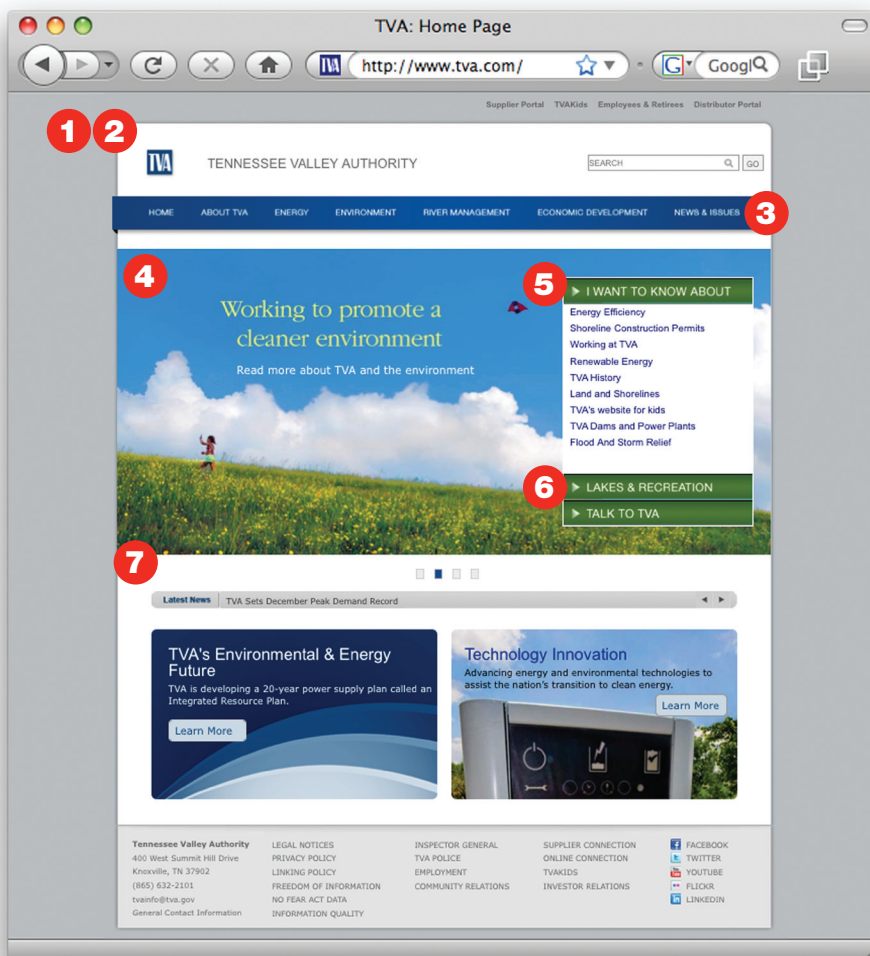
Ronald Mark West, Spring City, Nuclear Power Group

David L. Williams, Gallatin, Fossil Power Group

Ronald Jeffrey Williams, Brownsville, Fossil Power Group

Christopher G. Wilson, Decatur, Nuclear Power Group

Michael P. Woodfin, Tuscumbia, Fossil Power Group



## What makes **tva.com** one of the five best government websites?

Congress.org, an online publication of the Congressional Quarterly/Roll Call Group, recently gathered input from top web designers and ranked tva.com as one of the five best government websites. While other agencies spent millions for their winning website designs, TVA's external website was redesigned in house last year by a team that included Creative Services' Chas Law, Damien Power and Todd Winkler. What did the designers like?

- 1 "JUMPS OUT AT USERS RIGHT AWAY"
- 2 NO CLUTTER
- 3 CONCISE MENU
- 4 NICE BIG PICTURES
- 5 THE 'I WANT TO KNOW ABOUT' PANEL, WITH LINKS TO USERS' NINE TOP ISSUES
- 6 QUICK LINKS
- 7 GOOD USE OF COLOR